

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A content editing apparatus for generating a combined content by combining a first moving image signal and a first audio signal forming a first content with a second moving image signal and a second audio signal forming a second content, respectively, comprising:

an optimal reproduction frequency calculation means for calculating an optimal reproduction frequency at which reproduction times of a combined moving image signal and a combined audio signal forming said combined content coincide with each other for said combined audio signal; and

10 a frequency assignment means for assigning said optimal reproduction frequency to said combined content.

2. A content editing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

15 said optimal reproduction frequency calculation means calculates said optimal reproduction frequency based on a total size of said first audio signal and said second audio signal, and a total recorded time of said first moving image signal and said second moving image signal.

3. A content editing apparatus according to claim 1 or 2, further comprising:

20 a first reproduction frequency detection means for detecting a first reproduction frequency of said first audio signal;

25 a first correlation value calculation means for calculating a first correlation value correlating with an amount of a discrepancy between said optimal reproduction frequency and said first reproduction frequency; and

a first number-of-screens adjustment means for adjusting the number of screens of said first moving image signal based on said first correlation value.

25 4. A content editing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein

5        said first adjustment means includes an increasing means for increasing the number of screens of said first moving image signal, a decreasing means for decreasing the number of screens of said first moving image signal, and an activation means for activating any one of said increasing means and said decreasing means at a timing corresponding to said first correlation value.

5. A content editing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein  
said activation means activates said increasing means when said first correlation value indicates a first polarity, and activates said decreasing means when said first correlation value indicates a second polarity.

10      6. A content editing apparatus according to claim 4 or 5, further comprising:  
a memory for temporarily storing a plurality of still image signals forming said first moving image signal; and  
a reading means for reading the still image signals stored in said memory in an order according to process order information, wherein

15      said increasing means generates said process order information in such a manner that a specific screen of the still image signals is overlapped; and  
said decreasing means generates said process order information in such a manner that the specific screen of the still image signals is omitted.

7. A content editing apparatus according to claims 4 to 6, further comprising  
20      an information assignment means for assigning index information of still image signals forming said first moving image signal to said combined content, wherein  
said increasing means performs an interpolation on the index information of a specific screen of the still image signals; and  
said decreasing means performs a thinning on the index information of the specific  
25      screen of the still image signals.

8. A content editing apparatus according to claims 3 to 7, further comprising:  
a second reproduction frequency detection means for detecting a second  
reproduction frequency of said second audio signal;  
a second correlation value calculation means for calculating a second correlation  
value correlating with an amount of a discrepancy between said optimal reproduction  
frequency and said second reproduction frequency; and  
a second number-of-screens adjustment means for adjusting the number of screens  
of said second moving image signal based on said second correlation value.